GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5351
ANSWERED ON:06.04.2017
Critical Appraisal of MGNREGS
Natterjee Shri J. Jayasingh Thiyagaraj

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is struggling with poor planning and administrative skill, inadequate awareness, lack of focus on objectives, no purposeful spending, lack of adequate manpower, difficulty in funding the scheme, discrimination and corruption & irregularities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, case-wise;

(c) whether the scheme is now struggling with lack of fund allocation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) & (b): The Government is actively engaged with State Governments/UTs in establishing systems that ensure provision of work as per demand, transparency and accountability. To generate awareness about the provisions of the Scheme and to provide adequate employment opportunities to rural households under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), all States/UTs have been requested for the following:

(i) to initiate appropriate Information Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns including wall paintings for wide dissemination of the provisions of the Act.

(ii) to expand scope and coverage of demand registration system to ensure that demand for work under MGNREGA does not go unregistered.

(iii) to prepare plans in a participatory mode and approve them in the Gram Sabha.

(iv) to focus on creation of durable assets with quality.

(v) to prepare realistic labour budget by the State.

Complaints of irregularities in implementation of MGNREGA in States/UTs are received in the Ministry. Since the responsibility of implementation of MGNREGA is vested with the State Governments/UTs, all complaints received in the Ministry are forwarded to the concerned State Governments/UTs for taking appropriate action including investigation, as per law. Detailed instructions by way of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for complaint redressal have also been issued to all States/UTs. 19 States and 1 UT have formulated Grievance Redressal Rules for dealing with complaints. Steps have been taken to strengthen social audit units and appointment of Ombudsmen in the States.

(c) & (d): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is a demand driven programme. The fund release to States/UTs is a continuous process and Central Government is committed to making funds available keeping in view the demand for work. During the current Financial Year 2016-17 (as on 30.03.2017) an amount of Rs. 4791433.59 lakh has been released to the States/UTs for implementation of MGNREGS.

*****